

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 00/23321

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C11D3/39

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 C11D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|----------|---|-----------------------|
| X | US 5 710 116 A (BURCKETT-ST LAURENT JAMES CHAR ET AL) 20 January 1998 (1998-01-20) the whole document --- | 1-25 |
| X | US 5 817 614 A (DYKSTRA ROBERT RICHARD ET AL) 6 October 1998 (1998-10-06) the whole document examples --- | 1-25 |
| X | US 5 576 282 A (BURCKETT-ST LAURENT JAMES C T ET AL) 19 November 1996 (1996-11-19) cited in the application the whole document ----- | 1-25 |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210

3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Present claims 1, 16, 20 and 25 define a bleach system comprising a cationic organic catalyst represented by the formulas 'II!' and 'IV!'. Thus, these claims all relate to a extremely large number of compounds. Support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT is to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the compounds claimed. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to the compounds

- represented by the formulas 'XII!' and 'XIV!' as mentioned in claim 9 and in the description at page 7-11.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 00/23321

| Patent document cited in search report | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | | | Publication date |
|--|------------------|-------------------------|---|------------|------------------|
| US 5710116 | A 20-01-1998 | US 5576282 | A | 19-11-1996 | |
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| | | CA 2231540 | A | 20-03-1997 | |
| | | CN 1201486 | A | 09-12-1998 | |
| | | EP 0850296 | A | 01-07-1998 | |
| | | JP 11513413 | T | 16-11-1999 | |
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| | | CN 1247561 | A | 15-03-2000 | |
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| | | JP 11513413 | T | 16-11-1999 | |
| | | WO 9710323 | A | 20-03-1997 | |
| | | US 5710116 | A | 20-01-1998 | |